

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Claim 1. A method of playing a stud poker game comprising:

a) displaying a five card stud poker hand to the player;

b) if the five card stud poker hand comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award;

c) if a four card subset of the initial five card stud poker hand comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award; and

d) if a three card subset of the initial five card stud poker hand comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award.

Claim 2. The method of Claim 1 in which the predetermined arrangement of cards is poker hand ranking and the award made to the player is based on a pay table.

Claim 3. The method of Claim 2 in which a first pay table is

used for the five card hand, a second pay table is used for the four card hand, and a third pay table is used for the three card hand.

Claim 4. The method of Claim 1 in which the player makes a wager to participate in the game and the wager is allocated among the initial five card hand, the four card subset of the five card hand and the three card subset of the five card hand.

Claim 5. The method of Claim 4 in which the predetermined arrangement of cards is poker hand ranking and the award made to the player is based on a pay table and the amount wagered by the player.

Claim 6. The method of Claim 5 in which a first pay table is used for the five card hand, a second pay table is used for the four card hand, and a third pay table is used for the three card hand.

Claim 7. A method of playing a stud poker game comprising:

a) displaying a five card stud poker hand to the player, the hand consisting of card 1, card 2, card 3, card 4 and card 5;

b) if the five card stud poker hand comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award;

c) if a first four card subset of the initial five card stud poker hand consisting of card 1, card 2, card 3 and card 4 comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award;

d) if a second four card subset of the initial five card stud poker hand consisting of card 2, card 3, card 4 and card 5 comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award;

e) if a first three card subset of the initial five card stud poker hand consisting of card 1, card 2 and card 3 comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award;

f) if a second three card subset of the initial five

card stud poker hand consisting of card 2, card 3 and card 4 comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award; and

g) if a third three card subset of the initial five card stud poker hand consisting of card 3, card 4 and card 5 comprises a predetermined arrangement of cards, providing the player with an award.

Claim 8. The method of Claim 7 in which the predetermined arrangement of cards is poker hand ranking and the award made to the player is based on a pay table.

Claim 9. The method of Claim 8 in which a first pay table is used for the five card hand, a second pay table is used for the four card hands, and a third pay table is used for the three card hands.

Claim 10. The method of Claim 7 in which the player makes a wager to participate in the game and the wager is allocated among the initial five card hand, the four card subsets of the

five card hand and the three card subsets of the five card hand.

Claim 11. The method of Claim 10 in which the predetermined arrangement of cards is poker hand ranking and the award made to the player is based on a pay table and the amount wagered by the player.

Claim 12. The method of Claim 11 in which a first pay table is used for the five card hand, a second pay table is used for the four card hands, and a third pay table is used for the three card hands.